N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Timothy M. Gage; Yi Yang; Donnie V. Savage

Assignee:

Cisco Technology, Inc.

Title:

Method of Establishing Bi-Directional Connectivity of a Network Element

in a Network

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Benjamin A. Ailes

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Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks are submitted for entry into the present application along with the Request for Continued Prosecution under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 accompanying this paper. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

No Amendments to the Specification are presented in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

No Amendments to the Drawings are presented in this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.

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